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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted to discover (1) how the Associated Press (AP) and United Press International (UPI) wire services and the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool (NANAP) covered international affairs in terms of frequency of stories, countries covered, and kinds of subject matter; (2) differences and similarities in the three agencies' coverage of world affairs; (3) changes in coverage of world affairs by AP and UPI since studies conducted in 1979 and 1981; (4) whether NANAP provided alternative news or adhered to Western news values; and (5) the overall themes of the news stories reported. Content analysis of dispatches from all three agencies for one constructed week produced findings similar to those of earlier studies. Less developed countries were covered as frequently as the more developed ones by both AP and UPI regional services, the lengths of the stories about the less developed and more developed countries were roughly the same, and the primary emphases of the stories were diplomatic and political activity, internal armed conflicts and crisis, and crime. The findings differed from those of earlier studies in that the proportion of news dealing with conflict or crisis declined dramatically, especially in stories about the less developed nations, perhaps reflecting criticism of New International Information Order advocates. Analysis of NANAP stories showed that although it covered a wider variety of topics than AP or UPI, the stories were shorter, more frequent, mostly event oriented, and less crisis oriented. (FL)

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FOREIGN NEWS COVERAGE IN THREE WIRE SERVICES:

A STUDY OF AP, UPI, AND THE NONALIGNED NEWS AGENCIES POOL

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Foreign News Coverage in Three Wire Services:
A Study of AP, UPI, and the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool

Few comparative studies have been done on the transnational wire services and the cooperative news agencies of developing countries such as the Inter Press Service (IPS), the Caribbean News Agency (CANA), the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool (NANAP) and the Panafrican News Agency (PANA).[1] This present study seeks to partially remedy this situation by comparing the foreign news coverage of two U.S. transnational news agencies and the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool (NANAP), and by comparing the findings of this study to two earlier ones on the AP and UPI by Wilhoit and Weaver.[2] As with these earlier studies, this study is concerned with the amount, nature, and quality of foreign news coverage provided to small- to medium-sized media in the U.S. and to subscribers of the NANAP.

Other studies on wire service coverage of foreign news have found heavy concentrations of conflict- and crisis-orierted news in Western services, but generally not a lack of attention to Third World countries. Hester found that more than half of the items about Latin America in the AP wire were crisis-oriented,[3] but Harris concluded from his content analysis of 4,139 stories by Reuters, AFP and UPI that the news about developing nations was not crisis-oriented but rather was presented from an ethnocentric perspective to satisfy a Western-dominated news market.[4]

In a comparative study of AP and TANJUG, Robinson found that TANJUG tends to cover a large number of countries from different areas of the world, whereas AP tends to concentrate more on Western Europe and the United States. She also concluded that the Yugoslavian reporting by

TANJUG focused more on structure and process and less on personalities, and thus probed social change more than did AP news.[5] In a 1977 study of the NANAP, Pinch found that about half of the stories were about Third World development, but only about one-fifth were of sufficient quality to have high news potential to be used in developed countries.[6] Several studies of the Inter Press Service (IPS) by Jokelin, van Aernsbergen and others, Hester, Harris and Giffard suggest that IPS is an alternative news agency delivering a different kind of news than the "Big Four" agencies (AP, UPI, Reuters, and AFP), and that the topics covered by the IPS focus more on Third World developmental concerns.[7]

These findings are in contrast to those of recent studies by Wilhoit and Weaver of the AP and UPI regional news wires. Their research suggests that the volume of news coverage on less developed countries is about equal to that on more developed countries, but the news about Third World countries tends to focus more on conflicts and crises than news about more developed countries.[8] Even for the more developed countries, the bulk of these wire service stories concentrated on political and military activity and crime, and contained little about economic matters, international aid efforts (except for military aid), social services, culture, scientific and medical achievements, and ecological issues. Wilhoit and Weaver also found that as one moves from the national trunk wire to the regional wire services and then to the foreign news actually used by smaller newspapers, there is a movement from a relatively rich mixture of news (some of which could be classified as "developmental") to a sparse, violent, and conflict-laden portrait of the world in smaller newspapers--especially for Third World countries.[9] Because of these findings and others concerning the news values of Western news agencies

and those of developing countries, this present study was undertaken to see if there have been changes over time in light of Third World criticisms and to compare AP and UPI coverage to that of the NANAP at the same point in time.

Methodology

Content analysis was used to answer the main questions of this study. The research adopted a standard content analysis protocol devised for a multinational study of news flow conducted by the International Association for Mass Communication Research (IAMCR) in 1980 under the auspices of UNESCO.[10] This standardized content analysis scheme was developed mainly by Paul Hartmann at the University of Leicester and was used primarily because it makes it possible to compare the findings of this study with those of Weaver and Wilhoit and other studies which used the same coding scheme.

Sampling. The study used the news dispatches of AP and UPI regional wire services flowing into the computer of the Indiana Daily Student in Bloomington, Indiana, and the news dispatches of the NANAP flowing into the Pool's headquarters in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. A total sample of 378 stories was coded for this study. AP and UPI dates were randomly selected for both a constructed week and a continuous week, as in earlier Wilhoit-Weaver studies, but the dates of the news dispatches received from the NANAP did not correspond with all the ones of the U.S. wire services. Therefore it was possible to analyze only one constructed week for all three news agencies.

The following five days of the months of January and February 1983 constitute the random constructed week of this study.

January 27	(Thursday)
January 28	(Friday)
February 3	(Thursday)
February 4	(Friday)
February 7	(Monday)

Coder Reliability. Thirty randomly selected news stories, ten from each news agency, were coded by an independent coder. Holsti's[11] formula yielded the following coefficients of reliability: AP .94, UPI . 89, and NANAP .84. The overall average inter-coder reliability coefficient for the three news agencies was .89.

Coding Scheme. The International Association for Mass Communication Research (IAMCR) coding scheme embodies a variety of categories designed to provide data for comparative and multinational studies of the international news flow of mass media--namely newspapers, wire services and broadcast media. Because this study deals only with news agencies, some slight changes were made to the coding scheme. In addition, this study used a more detailed list of countries.

The main categories of this coding scheme are:[12]

Story event or issue. This category deals with the tone of the news item and its orientation. If the item deals with an up-to-date event without any detailed background and elaboration, it is then an event. If the story includes the above qualities, it is considered an issue. The rationale behind this category is to study whether the news from and about developed and developing nations is more event- or issue-oriented.

Location. The country or countries where the main event occurs. This is to assess which countries are covered.

Topics. Nine broad categories and 47 subjects were developed to find out what kind of themes are being covered. Coders selected one main topic and up to three subsidiary ones for each item.

Main Actor. Who is who in the news. Coders chose from 31 positions ranging from "symbolic/nominal head of state" to "ordinary people and citizens." Coders identified up to four main actors to test the hypothesis that officials, ministers and presidents are most likely to be featured in the news.

Themes and References. Coders could identify as many as 33 categories of themes per news item. The themes were about a variety of subjects such as "nuclear arms proliferation," "aid to developing country(ies)," "capitalism," "totalitarianism," etc. As explained in the IAMCR appendix, this category is intended to better illustrate the orientation of news.

Orientation of News: Crisis Versus Non-Crisis. One of the main claims of Third World countries concerning the NIIO is that they have been negatively portrayed by the Western media. To provide systematic data addressing this claim, a "theme" coding scheme in this study was broken into crisis and non-crisis categories.

The following topic categories were considered as crisis news: "internal conflict or crisis," "armed conflict or threat of," "non-political crime, police, judicial and penal activity," "political crime as above," "natural disasters, floods earthquakes, drought, . . . etc." The remaining categories represent non-crisis news.

Classification of Countries. Scholars in the field of economics and politics have been somewhat inconsistent in determining and defining what is a developed or a developing country. Some do not even agree on the names and terms used in this regard which appeared after World War II.

The problem is that some economic and political indicators such as gross national product (GNP), per capita income, political participation and life expectancy, among others, do not give a clear indication of which country is considered developed and which is not.

Because this study is using the IAMCR coding scheme and because its findings are compared with those of Weaver and Wilhoit, the classification of countries by Weaver and Wilhoit was adopted. However, a new category was added to this study because a more comprehensive list of countries was used.

The classification by Weaver and Wilhoit was mainly based upon a North-South geographical dimension, with the developed countries in the northern hemisphere, and the developing nations in the southern hemisphere.[13] Europe, the USSR, North America, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa form the category "More Developed Countries." Yugoslavia, Turkey, Portugal and the remaining countries of the world represent the category "Less Developed Countries." It should be noted that no ideological or political indicator was taken into account in this classification. As can be seen, both the USSR and the USA are in the same category.

The third category of this study's classification is "other" which embodies the following: "United Nations," "other inter-governmental bodies and international organizations," "more than one country," and "country of origin not clear."

Major Research Questions. This study addressed the following research questions:

1. How did AP and UPI regional wire services and the NANAP cover international affairs in terms of frequency of stories, countries covered and subject matters?
2. How were the three news agencies similar or different in covering world affairs?
3. What changes in coverage of international events by AP and UPI, if any, can be noted after the 1979 and 1981 studies and after more than a decade of heated debates on the NIIO?
4. Does NANAP provide alternative news (developmental journalism) as its statute claims or is it adopting more western news values?
5. What is the overall theme of the news stories (story event or story issue) and who are the main actors in the news of the three news agencies? Are there any differences?

Findings

Frequency of News Stories. Table 1 shows that during the five days studied the NANAP provided significantly more foreign news stories than either the AP or UPI state wire services, and 84 percent of the NANAP stories were about less developed countries, as compared to roughly one-half of the AP and UPI stories. The ratio of stories devoted to less- and more-developed countries in the AP and UPI regional services was roughly similar to what Wilhoit and Weaver found in 1979 and in 1981.[14]

Table 1 About Here

Length of News Stories. Comparison of the average length of news stories in square centimeters (because the width of stories from the NANAP was about twice that for AP and UPI) reveals that the NANAP foreign news stories were about two-thirds the length of those provided by AP and UPI. Average lengths of stories about the less- and more-developed countries were nearly equal for UPI and NANAP, but AP's stories about less-developed countries were about 1.5 times as long on the average as were the stories about the more-developed countries. In 1981, Wilhoit and Weaver found no difference in the average lengths of stories about the less- and more-developed countries, and in 1979 they found that the less-developed countries received more coverage than the more-developed both in terms of number of stories and the average length of these stories.

Nature of News Stories. Table 2 indicates that UPI carried the most event-oriented foreign news stories on its state wire (94 percent), but that AP and NANAP were not far behind, with 82 percent and 75 percent. In all, roughly three-fourths of the stories analyzed in this study were event-oriented rather than issue-oriented, including those by the NANAP. This finding offers no support for the notion that the NANAP provides significantly more issue-oriented news than do the AP and UPI combined, although it does seem that the NANAP provided somewhat more issue-oriented news than did UPI during the time period studied.

Table 2 About Here

Differences in the percentage of crisis-oriented news between more-developed and less-developed countries were not significant for each news

agency separately, but it was clear that AP provided the most such news (about 40 percent for both less- and more-developed countries), UPI the next most (about 30 percent) and the NANAP the least (none for more developed countries and 10 percent for less-developed). This finding supports those who claim that the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool carries less crisis-oriented news than do the major U.S. news agencies.

Even though the NANAP differed significantly from AP and UPI in the amount of crisis-oriented news carried, the actors in the news of all three agencies were mainly politicians, political ministers, presidents and diplomats -- an elite group of powerful people. Other actors who were not mentioned as often included terrorists, military forces, police and ordinary citizens. But overall, there was little difference in the positions of the actors reported on by the NANAP, AP and UPI.

Location of News. Table 3 indicates that UPI's foreign news stories were the most evenly distributed throughout the various regions of the world of all three news agencies. The regional emphasis of the NANAP news tended to reflect that of the AP, except NANAP stories were considerably less likely to come from Western Europe than were those of AP and UPI, and considerably more likely to come from Latin America and the Middle East. Asia, the Middle East and Latin America were most covered by the NANAP, whereas the AP concentrated most heavily on Asia, Western Europe, and the Middle East. Few foreign datelined stories in any of the services were about Eastern Europe or North America.

Table 3 About Here

Themes. The kinds of issues and subjects covered by the NANAP differed dramatically from those covered by AP and UPI during the five days we studied, as would be expected from the previously mentioned differences in crisis-news coverage. Whereas the AP and UPI focused on conflicts and crises such as religious and ethnic antagonism, nuclear proliferation, energy shortages, and East-West relations, the most frequently mentioned themes in the NANAP's news stories were development of Third World countries, political independence, human rights and aid to developing countries.

Topics of News. A comparison of main topics of news stories across the three news agencies showed that all three devoted from one-half to two-thirds of their stories to politics and military affairs, including diplomatic activities, internal crises, armed conflicts, and arms purchases. The figures on the NANAP show that a few topics such as aid, culture, agriculture, science and social services that went mostly unreported by the American regional wires received some coverage by the agencies cooperating in the Nonaligned Pool. As with the main topics of news stories, the secondary topics focused primarily on economics, politics, and the military.

Table 4 compares only the AP and UPI regional coverage in 1983 with the coverage of foreign news by these same news agencies in 1979 and 1981, as reported in the earlier studies by Wilhoit and Weaver. This comparison is hampered by the small number of stories coded in 1983 as compared with 1979 and 1981, but nevertheless the figures in Table 4 suggest that the primary emphasis is still on diplomatic and political activity, internal conflicts and crises, armed conflict (especially in the less-developed countries), and non-political crime.

Table 4 About Here

There are fewer significant differences between the news about the more- and less-developed countries than were found in 1979 and 1981, but there are more stories about armed conflict in Third World countries than in more developed (as found in 1979 and in 1981), and more stories about legal and court proceedings in less-developed countries. Conversely, there are more stories about arms deals and culture and the arts from the more-developed countries than from the Third World. Overall, though, the differences in the topics of coverage between less- and more-developed countries are few and not consistent with those found in 1979 and 1981, suggesting that there is not systematic bias by AP and UPI in topics of coverage of First and Third Worlds.

There is, however, a notable absence of coverage of agricultural matters, labor issues, international aid efforts, education, health services, religion, scientific and medical subjects, and ecological issues for both more-developed and less-developed countries, supporting the earlier conclusions by Wilhoit and Weaver about the narrowness of Western news values.[15]

But there are some notable changes in the topics of news coverage from 1979 to 1983 in the AP and UPI regional wires. The percentage of news about internal conflict or crisis has declined dramatically, especially for the less-developed countries (from about 47 percent in 1979 to 10 percent in 1983). There has also been a substantial decline in the percent of news about armed conflict or the threat of it in the less-developed countries (see Table 4), and a decline in stories about military aid, weapons and political crime in Third World countries. Increases in coverage of legal and court proceedings in the less-developed countries, and arms deals in the more developed countries, were evident from 1979 to 1983. Also noticeable were decreases in emphasis on diplomatic and political activity between states in both less- and more-developed countries (see Table 4).

Conclusions

This study suggests some of the same conclusions reached by Wilhoit and Weaver in their studies of 1979 and 1981 -- the less-developed countries as a bloc are covered as frequently as the more-developed countries by the AP and UPI regional wire services, the lengths of the news stories about less-developed and more-developed countries are roughly equal, and the primary emphasis in the news is still on diplomatic and political activity, internal and armed conflicts and crises (especially in the less-developed countries), and crime. As in the earlier studies, economic matters, international aid efforts, education, scientific and medical achievements, and ecological issues such as energy and pollution were all but neglected in the coverage of both less- and more-developed countries.[16]

But this 1983 study also suggests some substantial differences from the two earlier studies. The proportion of news dealing with conflict or crisis declined dramatically, especially in news about the Third World, suggesting that criticisms of advocates of the New International Information Order and previous research may have had some impact on the news values of foreign correspondents and editors of AP and UPI. Along with this decrease came an increase in the amount of news from the Third World about social problems such as housing and literacy, and about legal and court proceedings. There was also a substantial increase in the proportion of coverage of culture and the arts from the more-developed countries, and a marked decrease in the percentage of stories dealing with odd happenings and human interest subjects.

The analysis of the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool (NANAP) wire coverage indicated that although this agency covered a wider variety of topics than did AP and UPI (including development of Third World countries, political

independence, human rights and aid efforts), the NANAP stories were shorter than those of AP and UPI, were more frequent, were mostly event-oriented, were less crisis-oriented, were based mainly on the activities of elites (politicians, presidents, diplomats) as were the AP and UPI stories, and were more likely to come from Latin America and the Middle East than were the AP and UPI stories.

Contrary to the claims of some advocates of NANAP, however, was the lack of interpretative background, investigative reporting, and contextual material in the NANAP news stories we studied. Even though the news values of those contributing to NANAP do seem to be different from those of the American news agencies, the quality of news reporting by the nonaligned agencies is, in many respects, below that of AP and UPI. During the coding, many spelling errors and unclear sentences were found in the NANAP news stories, as well as lack of contextual background and explanation.

In addition, it is not clear how much use is made of the NANAP news stories by the media of developing countries. In an earlier study of development news in a Saudi daily newspaper (El-Jazira), the first author did not find a single news story from the Nonaligned News Agency Pool. If the developing nations themselves do not use news from the NANAP, it seems unlikely that the Americans or the French, or other more developed countries, will use it.

Overall, though, this study does suggest that some positive changes in the foreign news reporting of the AP and UPI regional services and some future potential for the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool as a source of a different kind of foreign news coverage.

# # #

Notes

[1]See Gertrude Robinson, News Agencies and World News in Canada, the United States and Yugoslavia: Methods and Data (Frisbourg, Switzerland: University Press of Frisbourg, 1981).

[2]David H. Weaver and G. Cleveland Wilhoit, "Foreign News Coverage in Two U.S. Wire Services," Journal of Communication, 31:55-63 (Spring 1981); G. Cleveland Wilhoit and David Weaver, "Foreign News Coverage in Two U.S. Wire Services: An Update," Journal of Communication, 33:132-48 (Spring 1983).

[3]Al Hester, "The News from Latin America Via a World News Agency," Gazette, 20: 82-98 (1974).

[4]Phil Harris, as quoted in Anthony Smith, The Geopolitics of Information (New York: Oxford University Press, 1980), p. 91.

[5]Robinson, op. cit., p. 209.

[6]Edward T. Pinch, "The Flow of News: An Assessment of the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool," Journal of Communication, 28:163-71 (Autumn 1978).

[7]Renny Jokelin, Alternative News: A Case Study of Inter Press Service (Tampere: University of Tampere, 1978); Jacques van Aernsbergen et al., "News from the Third World," Peace Research Center, University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands, 1979; Albert Hester, "Inter Press Service: News for and about the Third World," unpublished paper, School of Journalism, University of Georgia; Harris, op. cit.; Anthony C. Giffard, "Inter Press Service: News from the Third World," paper presented to the annual convention of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Corvallis, Oregon, August 1983.

[8]Weaver and Wilhoit, op. cit., pp. 62-63.

Notes - Continued

[9]Wilhoit and Weaver, op. cit., pp. 47-48.

[10]For a more detailed description of this content analysis protocol, see Weaver and Wilhoit, op. cit., pp. 57-58, and Annabelle Sreberny-Mohammadi, Kaarle Nordenstreng, Robert Stevenson, and Frank Ugboajah, "The World of the News: The News of the World," final report of the Foreign Images study undertaken by the International Association for Mass Communication Research for UNESCO, London, 1980. Copies of the complete analysis protocol are available from the second author of this present study.

[11]Reported in Richard W. Budd, Robert K. Thorp and Lewis Donohew, Content Analysis of Communication (New York: Macmillan, 1967), p. 68.

[12]For more details, see Sreberny-Mohammadi et al., op. cit. Also see Robert L. Stevenson and Donald Lewis Shaw, Foreign News and the New World Information Order (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1984).

[13]See Weaver and Wilhoit, op. cit., pp. 58-59; and Wilhoit and Weaver, op. cit., p. 139.

[14]In the 1979 study (Weaver and Wilhoit, op. cit.), there were more foreign news stories from the less-developed countries than from the more-developed, and they were longer on the average. In the 1981 study (Wilhoit and Weaver, op. cit.), no significant differences in frequency of coverage or story length of less- and more-developed countries were found.

[15]In the 1979 study, Weaver and Wilhoit concluded that different definitions of news might help in promoting international understanding and cooperation. In the 1981 study, Wilhoit and Weaver emphasized the need to reassess basic news values, especially those of smaller newspaper editors, if readers are to get a picture of the world that is less incomplete and distorted.

Notes - Continued

[16]See Weaver and Wilhoit, op. cit., pp. 61-62; and Wilhoit and Weaver, op. cit., pp. 141-42.

TABLE 1

Number of News Stories
in AP, UPI and the NANAP

Wire Services	More Developed		Less Developed		Other		All Countries	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
AP	24	40	34	57	2	3	60	100
UPI	19	58	14	42	0	0	33	100
NANAP	24	8	240	84	21	7	285	100
TOTAL	67	18	288	76	23	6	378	100

Chi-square = 74.15, d.f. = 4, p = .0000

TABLE 2

Comparison of Nature of International News
in AP, UPI and the NANAP

Wire Services	Event-Oriented		Issue-Oriented		All Stories	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
AP	49	82	11	18	60	100
UPI	31	94	2	6	33	100
NANAP	213	75	72	25	285	100
TOTAL	293	78	85	22	378	100

Chi-square = 6.96, d.f. = 2, p = .03

TABLE 3

Location of International News in AP, UPI and the NANAP by Regions

Regions	AP (n = 60)	UPI (n = 33)	NANAP (n = 285)
Africa	10.0 %	3.0 %	7.7 %
Asia	26.7 %	9.1 %	28.8 %
Eastern Europe	6.7 %	15.2 %	3.9 %
Latin America	5.0 %	15.2 %	19.3 %
Middle East	18.3 %	15.2 %	23.2 %
North America	3.3 %	12.1 %	1.1 %
Western Europe	25.0 %	30.3 %	6.3 %
Other	5.0 %	00.0 %	9.8 %
TOTALS	100.0 %	100.1 %*	100.1 %*

Chi-square = 66.85, d.f. = 14, p = .0000

*Does not total to 100.0% because of rounding.

TABLE 4

Comparison of Subject Matter of U.S. Regional Wire Service Foreign Coverage, 1979, 1981 and 1983

Topics of Wire Service Stories	Percent of Stories from Developed Countries			Percent of Stories from Developing Countries			Chi-square Significance between developed and developing Countries		
	1979 (n=139)	1981 (n=150)	1983 (n=43)	1979 (n=197)	1981 (n=127)	1983 (n=48)	1979	1981	1983
Politics									
1. Diplomatic/ political activity between states	34.5%	29.3%	16.3%	48.3%	35.4%	22.9%	.004	.55	.59
2. Internal conflict or crisis	13.7	26.7	11.6	46.7	28.3	10.4	.0001	.27	1.00
3. Elections, campaigns, appointments, government changes	15.1	3.3	0.0	10.1	3.1	4.2	.27	.95	.52
4. Other political, including legislation	1.4	2.7	0.0	3.0	3.9	2.1	.45	.54	1.00
Military and Defense									
5. Armed conflict or threat of	10.8	11.3	2.3	41.6	32.3	14.6	.0001	.0000	.09
6. Peace moves, negotiations, settlements	10.8	6.0	4.7	17.3	8.9	8.3	.11	.72	.77
7. Other, including arms deals, weapons bases exercises	4.3	4.7	20.9	2.5	3.1	4.2	.59	.69	.03

Table 4 (cont'd)

Topics of Wire Service Stories	Percent of Stories from Developed Countries			Percent of Stories from Developing Countries			Significance between developed and developing Countries		
	1979 (n=139)	1981 (n=150)	1983 (n=43)	1979 (n=197)	1981 (n=127)	1983 (n=48)	1979	1981	1983
Economic Matters									
8. Agreements on trade, tariffs, etc.	3.6%	1.3%	0.0%	3.5%	.8%	0.0	.25	.24	N/A
9. Other international trade, imports, exports	4.3	1.3	2.3	2.5	.0	0.0	.24	.55	.95
10. Capital investment, stock issues (not aid)	.7	.7	0.0	.0	.8	0.0	.86	.36	N/A
11. Stock exchange, share prices, dividends	0.0	.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	N/A	.93	N/A
12. Other economic performance, output, growth, etc.	2.2	2.7	0.0	0.5	0.0	2.1	.39	.18	1.0
13. Prices, cost of living, inflation, etc.	0.7	1.3	0.0	1.0	0.0	2.1	.68	.55	1.0
14. Industrial projects, factories, dams, ports	4.4	2.7	0.0	1.5	.8	2.1	.11	.46	1.0
15. Agricultural matters, projects, crops, harvests, etc.	0.0	4.0	0.0	.5	0.0	0.0	.86	.06	N/A
16. Industrial/labor relations, disputes, negotiations, wages	3.6	14.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	.11	.0001	N/A

Table 4 (cont'd)

Topics of Wire Service Stories	Percent of Stories from Developed Countries			Percent of Stories from Developing Countries			Significance between developed and developing Countries		
	1979 (n=139)	1981 (n=150)	1983 (n=43)	1979 (n=197)	1981 (n=127)	1983 (n=48)	1979	1981	1983
Economic Matters (cont'd)									
17. Monetary questions, exchange rates, money supply	3.6	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	.03	.12	N/A
18. Other economic	0.0	2.7	0.0	2.0	1.6	0.0	.24	.8	N/A
International Aid									
19. Disaster or famine relief	0.0	1.3	0.0	2.5	.8	0.0	.17	.65	N/A
20. Aid for economic purposes (e.g., industrial development	1.4	1.3	4.7	1.0	1.6	0.0	.87	.99	.42
21. Military aid, weapons, advisors, training	0.7	5.3	0.0	7.1	1.6	0.0	.01	.23	N/A
22. Other aid (e.g., education, family planning	0.7	.7	0.0	0.5	.8	0.0	.64	.36	N/A
Social Services									
23. Social problems, generally (health, housing, literacy, etc.)	3.6	2.7	2.3	1.5	.8	8.3	.36	.38	.42
24. Educational provision	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.5	.8	0.0	.86	.88	N/A

Table 4 (cont'd)

Topics of Wire Service Stories	Percent of Stories from Developed Countries			Percent of Stories from Developing Countries			Significance between developed and developing Countries		
	1979 (n=139)	1981 (n=150)	1983 (n=43)	1979 (n=197)	1981 (n=127)	1983 (n=48)	1979	1981	1983
Social Services (cont'd)									
25. Health provision (not family planning)	0.7%	.7%	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	.86	.88	N/A
26. Family planning	0.0	.3	0.0	0.0	.8	0.0	N/A	.24	N/A
27. Other social services and social welfare	0.0	2.0	2.3	0.5	0.0	2.1	.86	.28	1.0
Crime, Police, Judicial, Legal, Penal									
28. Non-political crime, police, judicial, and penal activity	14.4	8.0	14.0	3.6	4.7	8.3	.0001	.33	.60
29. Political crime	9.4	12.7	7.0	17.8	22.8	0.0	.02	.08	.20
30. Non-criminal, legal and court proceedings (e.g., claims for damages)	0.0	1.3	2.3	0.5	0.0	14.6	.86	.43	.09
31. Other crime/legal	2.9	2.7	4.7	0.0	0.0	2.1	.06	.18	.92
32. Culture, Arts, Archeology	5.7	4.7	16.3	3.0	1.6	0.0	.29	.06	.01
33. Religion	10.8	9.1	0.0	1.0	.8	0.0	.0001	.04	N/A
34. Scientific, technical, Medical	7.9	2.7	0.0	3.0	3.1	0.0	.12	.74	N/A

Table 4 (cont'd)

Topics of Wire Service Stories	Percent of Stories from Developed Countries			Percent of Stories from Developing Countries			Significance between developed and developing Countries		
	1979 (n=139)	1981 (n=150)	1983 (n=43)	1979 (n=197)	1981 (n=127)	1983 (n=48)	1979	1981	1983
Sports									
35. International	0.0%	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	N/A	.28	N/A
36. Non-international	0.0	.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	N/A	.93	N/A
37. Entertainment, show business (except personalities)	0.7	4.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	.68	.08	N/A
Personalities (not politicians)									
38. Sports	1.4	.7	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	.47	.93	N/A
39. Entertainers	0.0	4.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	.49	.07	N/A
40. Others	0.7	1.3	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	.47	.55	N/A
41. Human Interest, odd happenings, animals, sex, etc.	22.3	19.3	0.0	4.5	15.4	0.0	.0001	.35	N/A
42. Student matters	0.7	1.3	0.0	2.0	0.0	2.1	.56	.43	1.0
Ecology									
43. Energy conservation	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	.48	N/A	N/A
44. Pollution	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
45. Other	0.7	0.0	2.3	0.0	2.4	0.0	.86	.19	.95
46. Natural disaster (floods, etc.)	2.2	2	2.3	3.6	2.4	2.1	.68	.84	1.0
47. Other	4.3	3.3	0.0	2.0	7.9	6.3	.42	.07	.28

These percentages represent a combination of U.S. regional wire services stories of AP and UPI and a combination of main and subsidiary topics. Therefore, the total exceeds 100%.

The percentages of the 1979 and 1981 studies concerning "religion" are based only on the main topic totals including subsidiary topic totals would obscure differences in coverage between developed and developing countries.